IN THE CLAIMS

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the present Application are presented below whether or not an amendment has been made. Please amend the claims as follows:

1. **(Original)** A system for monitoring and assessing the performance of a project, the system comprising:

a computer; and

a software program associated with the computer, the software program and computer operable in combination to:

receive project task data and earned value information from a project management software file or a historical data file;

determine schedule recovery date (SRD) information from the project task data and earned value information; and

display the schedule recovery date (SRD) information.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 1, wherein the ~~SRD information includes~~ software program and computer are operable to determine SRD related information.

3. **(Original)** The system of Claim 2, wherein the software program and computer are operable to determine the SRD information by accessing a historical data file.

4. **(Original)** The system of Claim 1, further comprising displaying advisory messages selected from the group consisting of proposed courses of action, explanatory information, and combinations thereof.

5. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 1, wherein the software program and computer are operable to obtain the SRD information by:

calculating a total over time effort hours required;

calculating a total over time effort hours available for a successive reporting period following a current reporting date (CRD); and

setting the schedule recovery date equal to the reporting period if the total over time effort hours available is equal to or greater than the total over time effort hours required;

wherein at least the last two steps are repeated for each successive reporting period until a schedule recovery date, at which the total over time effort hours available is equal to or greater than the total over time effort hours required, is determined or until a project baseline finish date is reached.

6. **(Original)** The system of Claim 5, wherein at least the last two steps are repeated for each successive reporting period until a project baseline finish date is reached.

7. **(Original)** The system of Claim 5, wherein the total over time effort hours required is calculated by setting it equal to the absolute value of the schedule variance.

8. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 5, wherein the total over time effort hours required is calculated by dividing the absolute value of the schedule variance by a cost performance index (CPI).

9. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 5, wherein the total over time effort hours available is calculated by multiplying a total number of available full time equivalents from the current reporting date to the reporting period being analyzed by an over time rate per day for each available full time equivalent.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 9, wherein the total number of available full time equivalents is calculated by obtaining the difference between a cumulative budget cost of work scheduled (BCWS) for the reporting period being analyzed and a cumulative budget cost of work scheduled (BCWS) for the current reporting date, and dividing the difference by the hours per day available from each full time equivalent.

11. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 9, wherein the total number of available full time equivalents is calculated by adding a number of full time equivalents scheduled for each reporting period from the current reporting date to the reporting period being analyzed.

12. **(Original)** The system of Claim 5, wherein the reporting period is selected from the group consisting of a day, a week, a month, a quarter, a year, and a decade.

13. **(Original)** The system of Claim 5, further comprising storing in a data file information selected from the group consisting of the schedule recovery date, the total over time effort hours available for each reporting period, the corresponding reporting period being analyzed, and combinations thereof.

14. **(Previously Presented)** A method of monitoring and assessing the performance of a project, comprising:

receiving project task data and earned value information from a project management software file or a historical data file;

determining schedule recovery date (SRD) information from the project task data and earned value information;

displaying the schedule recovery date (SRD) information; and

wherein receiving project task data and earned value information, determining schedule recovery date (SRD) information, and displaying the schedule recovery date are carried out electronically.

15. **(Original)** The method of Claim 14, further comprising displaying advisory messages selected from the group consisting of proposed courses of action, explanatory information, and combinations thereof.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 14, wherein the SRD information is obtained by:

calculating a total over time effort hours required;

calculating a total over time effort hours available for a successive reporting period following [[the]] a current reporting date (CRD); and

setting a schedule recovery date equal to the reporting period if the total over time effort hours available is equal to or greater than the total over time effort hours required;

wherein at least the last two steps are repeated for each successive reporting period until a schedule recovery date, at which the total over time effort hours available is equal to or greater than the total over time effort hours required, is determined or until a project baseline finish date is reached.

17. **(Original)** The method of Claim 16, wherein at least the last two steps are repeated for each successive reporting period until a project baseline finish date is reached.

18. **(Original)** The method of Claim 16, wherein the total over time effort hours required is calculated by setting it equal to the absolute value of the schedule variance.

19. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 16, wherein the total over time effort hours required is calculated by dividing the absolute value of the schedule variance by a cost performance index (CPI).

20. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 16, wherein the total over time effort hours available is calculated by multiplying a total number of available full time equivalents from the current reporting date to the reporting period being analyzed by an over time rate per day for each available full time equivalent.

21. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 20, wherein the total number of available full time equivalents is calculated by obtaining the difference between a cumulative budget cost of work scheduled (BCWS) for the reporting period being analyzed and a cumulative budget cost of work scheduled (BCWS) for the current reporting date, and dividing the difference by the hours per day available from each full time equivalent.

22. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 20, wherein the total number of available full time equivalents is calculated by adding a number of the number of full time equivalents scheduled for each reporting period from the current reporting date to the reporting period being analyzed.

23. **(Original)** The method of Claim 16, wherein the reporting period is selected from the group consisting of a day, a week, a month, a quarter, a year, and a decade.

24. **(Original)** The method of Claim 16, further comprising storing in a data file information selected from the group consisting of the schedule recovery date, the total over time effort hours available for each reporting period, the corresponding reporting date being analyzed, and combinations thereof.

25. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 16, further comprising determining and displaying the schedule variance recovered at certain preselected reporting periods and the corresponding reporting periods.